Refund of security deposit in Idgah exchange

1922. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of subscribers have surrendered their telephone connections in the Idgah Exchange of MTNL during the last one year and have requested for the refund of the security deposit;

(b) if so, the number of cases pending for refund of the security deposit as on date; and

(c) what steps are being taken to refund the security deposit immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Sir, a total number of 747 subscribers have surrendered their telephones during last one year and requested for refund of their deposits.

(b) A total number of 69 cases of refund are pending as on date. While many of the cases are pending for want of some documents/ certificates or return of telephone instruments and directory by the subscribers, some case have been received recently.

(c) All the pending cases, where documents are complete, are being processed expeditiously for refund of the security deposit.

Foreign exchange facility in post offices

1923. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facility for buying and selling of foreign exchange would be made available in all post offices;

(b) the foreign currencies which would be available in post offices;

(c) by when this scheme is going to be launched; and

(d) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (d) A proposal to provide facilities for buying and selling of Foreign Exchange from identified post offices is under consideration and a decision will be taken based upon technical and commercial feasibility.

Payment of bills in post offices

1924. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are launching an innovative project through which one click system would solve the problems of standing and waiting in long queues for payment of bills in post offices;

(b) whether now onwards citizens would be able to make payments of their bills from a host of agencies through computerized working of post offices; and

(c) by when this facility would be extended throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Posts has launched a service called e-Bill Post through which members of the public would be able to pay a variety of public utility bills at select computerized post offices in the country.

(b) As and when different service provides like telephone, electricity, water supply etc. subscribers to this e-Bill Post their consumers can pay the bills at identified Post Offices.

(c) Depending upon the response from different service providers, availability of Internet facility and required funds this will be extended further.